In the Claims:

The claims have been re-listed to correct a claim numbering issue. The previous claim listing erroneously listed two claims numbered 33. Please change previously numbered claims 33 (second instance) through 38 to be claims 34 through 39. The content of the claims has not been amended.

1. (Previously presented) A network management system comprising:

an event gateway which is coupled to one or more managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers; and

a platform-independent interface to the event gateway, wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events generated by the managed objects;

wherein the event gateway comprises a plurality of event distribution server sinks configured to receive events generated by the managed objects and distribute the events to the one or more managers such that one of the managers receives events from a plurality of different ones of the event distribution server sinks; and

wherein the gateway is configurable to provide the managers with subscriptions to the events as a function of event criteria specified by the managers, whereby events meeting the specified event criteria are delivered and events failing to meet the specified event criteria are filtered out.

2. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the event criteria comprise an object class for the managed objects generating the events.

3. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the event criteria comprise an object instance for one of the managed objects generating the events.

4. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the event criteria comprise an event type.

5. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the platform-independent interface to the event gateway is expressed in an interface definition language, and wherein the interface definition language comprises a language for defining interfaces to managed objects across a plurality of platforms and across a plurality of programming languages.

6. (Original) The network management system of claim 5, wherein the interface definition language comprises OMG IDL interface.

7. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the managed objects comprise one or more objects corresponding to a telephone network.

8. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the managed objects comprise an object corresponding to a telecommunications device.

9. (Previously presented) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the event gateway comprises:

an event distribution server, wherein the event distribution server is configurable to listen for the events generated by the one or more managed objects and deliver the events to the one or more managers, wherein the event distribution server comprises the plurality of event distribution server sinks.

10. (Previously presented) The network management system of claim 9, wherein the event gateway further comprises:

an event port registry server comprising a plurality of event ports and an event port registry,

wherein the event port registry server is coupled to the event distribution server,

wherein the event ports comprise communication channels for the delivery of the events to the one or more managers, and

wherein the event port registry provides information to the event distribution server regarding which ports correspond to which managers.

11. (Previously presented) The network management system of claim 9, wherein the event distribution server comprises:

an event distribution server source which listens for the events from the one or more managed objects; and

wherein the plurality of event distribution server sinks are operable to dispatch the events to the one or more managers as a function of the subscriptions.

12. (Previously presented) The network management system of claim 11, wherein the event distribution server sinks are distributed to provide load balancing of the events to the one or more managers.

13. (Original) The network management system of claim 1, wherein the events are delivered through the platform-independent interface according to Internet Inter-Object Protocol (IIOP).

14. (Previously presented) A network management method comprising:

registering a subscription of a manager application to one or more events generated by one or more managed objects by specifying event criteria to an event gateway, and wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the manager application through a platform-independent interface;

generating a plurality of events including one or more events matching the specified event criteria;

determining whether the specified event criteria are met for each of the plurality of generated events; and

delivering each event for which the specified event criteria are met, wherein events for which the specified event criteria are met are delivered from a plurality of different event distribution server sinks of the event gateway to the manager application.

15. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the event criteria comprise an object class for the managed objects generating the events.

16. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the event criteria comprise an object instance for one of the managed objects generating the events.

17. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the event criteria comprise an event type.

18. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the platform-independent interface to the event gateway is expressed in an interface definition language, and wherein the interface definition language comprises a language

for defining interfaces to managed objects across a plurality of platforms and across a plurality of programming languages.

19. (Original) The network management method of claim 18, wherein the interface definition language comprises OMG IDL.

20. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the managed objects comprise one or more objects corresponding to a telephone network.

21. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the managed objects comprise an object corresponding to a telecommunications device.

22. (Previously presented) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the event gateway comprises:

an event distribution server which is coupled to the event port registry server, wherein the event distribution server is configurable to listen for the events generated by the one or more managed objects and deliver the events to the one or more managers, wherein the event distribution server comprises the plurality of event distribution server sinks.

23. (Previously presented) The network management method of claim 22, wherein the event gateway further comprises:

an event port registry server comprising a plurality of event ports and an event port registry;

wherein the event port registry server is coupled to the event distribution server,

wherein the event ports comprise communication channels for the delivery of the events to the one or more managers, and

wherein the event port registry provides information to the event distribution server regarding which ports correspond to which managers.

24. (Previously presented) The network management method of claim 22, wherein the event distribution server comprises:

an event distribution server source which listens for the events from one or more managed objects; and

wherein the plurality of event distribution server sinks are operable to dispatch the events to managers as a function of the subscriptions.

25. (Previously presented) The network management method of claim 24, wherein the event distribution server sinks are distributed to provide load balancing of the events to the one or more managers.

26. (Original) The network management method of claim 14, wherein the events are delivered through the platform-independent interface according to Internet Inter-Object Protocol (IIOP).

27. (Previously presented) A carrier medium comprising program instructions for network management, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to perform:

registering a subscription of a manager application to one or more events generated by one or more managed objects by specifying event criteria to an event gateway, and wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the manager application through a platform-independent interface;

generating a plurality of events including one or more events matching the specified event criteria;

determining whether the specified event criteria are met for each of the plurality of generated events; and

delivering each event for which the specified event criteria are met, wherein events for which the specified event criteria are met are delivered from a plurality of different event distribution server sinks of the event gateway to the manager application.

28. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the event criteria comprise an object class for the managed objects generating the events.

29. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the event criteria comprise an object instance for one of the managed objects generating the events.

30. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the event criteria comprise an event type.

31. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the platform-independent interface to the event gateway is expressed in an interface definition language, and wherein the interface definition language comprises a language for defining interfaces to managed objects across a plurality of platforms and across a plurality of programming languages.

32. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 31, wherein the interface definition language comprises OMG IDL.

33. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the managed objects comprise one or more objects corresponding to a telephone network.

34. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the managed objects comprise an object corresponding to a telecommunications device.

35. (Previously presented) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the event gateway comprises:

an event distribution server which is coupled to the event port registry server, wherein the event distribution server is configurable to listen for the events generated by the one or more managed objects and deliver the events to the one or more managers, wherein the event distribution server comprises the plurality of event distribution server sinks.

36. (Previously presented) The carrier medium of claim 35, wherein the event gateway further comprises:

an event port registry server comprising a plurality of event ports and an event port registry;

wherein the event port registry server is coupled to the event distribution server,

wherein the event ports comprise communication channels for the delivery of the events to the one or more managers, and

wherein the event port registry provides information to the event distribution server regarding which ports correspond to which managers.

37. (Previously presented) The carrier medium of claim 35, wherein the event distribution server comprises:

an event distribution server source which listens for the events from one or more managed objects; and

wherein the plurality of event distribution server sinks are operable to dispatch the events to managers as a function of the subscriptions.

38. (Previously presented) The carrier medium of claim 37, wherein the event distribution server sinks are distributed to provide load balancing of the events to the one or more managers.

39. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 27, wherein the events are delivered through the platform-independent interface according to Internet Inter-Object Protocol (IIOP).